

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5 In re Application of: Birk et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3733  
Application No.: 10/562,954 )  
Filing Date: December 30, 2005 ) Examiner: Elana Beth Fisher  
10 For: IMPLANTABLE DEVICE FASTENING ) Confirmation No.: 8688  
SYSTEM AND METHODS OF USE ) Customer No.: 51957  
)

15 Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 23213-1450

## AMENDMENT

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Applicants respond to the December 23, 2009 office action as follows:

**Listing** of the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

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**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.